

ABSTRACTS

Auden's teachings, by Pere Ballart

W. H. Auden's influence in the Catalan poetry of the twentieth century has been lasting and deep. This short essay aims to consider all those poets who have been the main beneficiaries of Auden's teachings. The essay analyses especially the different forms in which his works have been exemplary to our poetical tradition.

Bis-a-bis (sic) between Science and Theater, by Màrius Serra

This is the text of a lecture read by the author on stage at Catalan National Theater on 5/14/2007. It is about Theater and Science: scientific themes used by playwrights in the twentieth century, science and theater's relationships with political power and other parallelisms between both activities, starting with a complex analogy between Schrödinger's cat experiment and a theater play. The author had just translated Tom Stoppard's *Arcadia* into Catalan, so he went on stage with four actors using *Arcadia*'s scenery. Every point was illustrated by some dramatized readings. There were some science-focused fragments taken from works by Antonio Álamo, Bertold Brecht, Friederich Dürrenmatt, Michael Frayn, Carl Djerassi and Tom Stoppard.

An excurs on Pla and Dalí, by Vicent Santamaria

Although Pla and Dalí had antagonistic personalities, they share some features. This article analyses their differences and coincidences through Pla's articles on Dalí, taking into account that Pla was one of the few Catalan intellectuals to defend Dalí's work.

Can a liberal defend the Linguistic Policy followed by the Generalitat de Catalunya?, by Joan Vergés Gifra

The article tackles the question of whether a liberal could support the Linguistic Policy followed by the Generalitat de Catalunya. The main interest in the question lies in the fact that most critics to that policy assert that it is illiberal. We begin by seeing which arguments a liberal could *prima facie* provide. Then we consider another set of arguments put forward by the *liberal culturalism* trend patronized by Kymlicka. We finally consider the force of the argument that takes Catalan as a public good to be preserved. Finally we propose a metaphor –language as a “second skin”– intended to overcome the Romantic understanding of language as a *Weltansicht*.

Francesc de Borja Moll and the enlightened linguistic discourse, by Guillem Calaforra and Sebastià Moranta

Francesc de Borja Moll is one of the most outstanding voices that took part in the ‘Pep Gonella's controversy’. As an important linguist, Moll was the main example of the argumentation against the dialectalization of the Catalan spoken in Majorca. His answers to Gonella's ‘regionalist’ statements show all the features of the enlightened discourse, based on scientific argumentation, analytic exactness, responsibility for one's own statements, etc. This paper analyses the rhetoric strategies of Moll's discourse and its pragmatic limitations in the context of that controversy.

Four looks on the situation of the Catalan language, by Albert Branchadell

This paper is a review of four recent contributions to the knowledge of the sociolinguistic situation of Catalan at the beginning of the 21st century. The contributions range from an in-depth study of the school-age population of the city of Granollers, in the Barcelona metropolitan area, to more speculative works on the prospects for Catalan across Catalonia. The paper specifically focuses on the meager empirical evidence for the claim that Catalan is undergoing a process of language shift.